

OFFICIAL

Attorney Docket # 3415-11CIP

Serial No. **09/688,482**

Amdt. dated 12 September 2003

Reply to Office Action dated 12 August 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Before the present Response to Restriction Requirement/Amendment, Claims 1-17 were pending, with Claims 1 and 10 being the only independent claims. In the present Response to Restriction Requirement/Amendment, Claims 1-9 have been elected and amended, Claims 10-17 have been withdrawn, and Claims 18-20 have been added. After the present Response to Restriction Requirement/Amendment has been entered, Claims 1-9 and 18-20 will be pending, and Claims 10-17 will be withdrawn.

In response to the Requirement for Restriction dated 12 August 2003, applicant elects Invention I (Claims 1-9) for further prosecution in the above captioned application, and thus withdraws Claims 10-17 (i.e., Invention II) from further prosecution at this time. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the non-elected claims in a divisional application prior to issuance of a patent on the instant application.

In the present Amendment, cosmetic formal changes are made to Claims 1-9, although Claims 1 and 9 also have slight clarifications of the nature of the present invention in addition to the cosmetic formal changes. Claims 18-20 have been added, and they contain no new matter. At least because Claims 18-20 depend from independent Claim 1, which is believed to be in condition for allowance, Claims 18-20 are also believed to be in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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